

- (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -16 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) a polynucleotide encoding the IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666;
- (e) a polynucleotide encoding the mature IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666;
- (f) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (a),  
wherein:
- (i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and
- (ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (a);
- (g) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (b),  
wherein:
- (i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and
- (ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (b);
- (h) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (c),  
wherein:
- (i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

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(ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (c);

(i) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (d), wherein:

(i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (d);

(j) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (e), wherein:

(i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (e);

(k) a polynucleotide comprising a fragment of the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said fragment is at least 750 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1;

(l) a first polynucleotide which hybridizes at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5xSSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate, 5x Denhardt's solutions, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 g/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, to a second polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof; wherein said first polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which retains substantially the same activity as a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

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(m) a polynucleotide encoding an epitope-bearing portion of the IL-1R AcM polypeptide, wherein said epitope-bearing portion is selected from the group consisting of: amino acids 6 to 15 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acids 57 to 66 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acids 70 to 79 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid 106 to 112 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid 115 to 124 in SEQ ID NO:2; and amino acid 129 to 135 in SEQ ID NO:2; and

(n) the complement of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l) or (m).

21. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (a).

22. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, which comprises nucleotides 303 to 1370 of SEQ ID NO:1.

23. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (b).

24. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23, which comprises nucleotides 306 to 1370 of SEQ ID NO:1.

25. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (c).

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26. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, which comprises nucleotides 354 to 1370 of SEQ ID NO:1.

27. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (d).

28. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (e).

29. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (f).

30. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (g).

31. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (h).

32. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (i).

33. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (j).

34. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (k).
35. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (l).
36. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (m).
37. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is (n).
38. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.
39. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.
40. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising 300 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
41. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 40 which comprises at least 400 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
42. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 41 which comprises at least 500 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
43. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 42 which comprises at least 600 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
44. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 43 which comprises at least 700 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
45. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 44 which comprises at least 800 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
46. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 45 which comprises at least 900 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.

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47. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 46 which comprises at least 1000 contiguous nucleotides from the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
48. A polynucleotide comprising a fragment of the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said fragment is at least 100 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1, provided that said polynucleotide is not SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, or any subfragment thereof.

49. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -17 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -16 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) a polynucleotide encoding the IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666;
- (e) a polynucleotide encoding the mature IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666;
- (f) a first polynucleotide which hybridizes at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5xSSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate, 5x Denhardt's solutions, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 g/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, to a second polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof; wherein said first polynucleotide

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encodes a polypeptide which retains substantially the same activity as a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(g) the complement of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f).

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50. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (a).
51. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 50, which comprises nucleotides 303 to 1370 of SEQ ID NO:1.
52. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (b).
53. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 52, which comprises nucleotides 306 to 1370 of SEQ ID NO:1.
54. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (c).
55. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 54, which comprises nucleotides 354 to 1370 of SEQ ID NO:1.
56. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (d).
57. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (e).
58. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (f).
59. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is (g).
60. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.
61. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.
62. The polynucleotide of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide is fused to a heterologous polynucleotide.